

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image carrier which rotates;

5 a latent image forming device which decomposes image
information into a plurality of color information items,
and emits, onto the image carrier, information light
based on the decomposed color information items, thereby
sequentially forming electrostatic latent images of
10 different colors;

 a plurality of developing rollers which sequentially
supply, at a developing position, respective color
developers to the electrostatic latent images of
different colors formed by the latent image forming
15 device;

 a revolver unit which holds the developing rollers
in a direction of rotation, and revolves the developing
rollers about a shaft to move the developing rollers to
the developing position; and

20 a positioning device which positions the image
carrier out of contact with the revolver unit, thereby
defining a predetermined gap between each of the
developing rollers and the image carrier at the
developing position.